

Membership at Westminster

Why Membership
Makes a Difference



Why Membership?

"I feel included and welcomed. Westminster is a warm place."

"The worship and music help me reset for the week."

"Because Westminster is my church family."

These are a few of the many reasons Westminster members have identified when asked *why* they are members of our congregation. At Westminster all are welcome, and we hope all who enter our community and spaces will feel a sense of belonging. One way of strengthening your own sense of connection with Westminster is to become a church member. Membership provides a more formal commitment "where the rubber" of faith "meets the road" of community and activity. Becoming a member involves a public commitment to making Westminster - church and people - the community in which you wish to worship and follow Jesus.

Why Westminster?

Westminster has a mission to be, "an inclusive faith family, inspired by Jesus Christ, to call, nurture, and empower disciples." As we look toward celebrating 100 years at the corner of Sheridan and South in December 2026, we are embracing a vision that focuses our work and life together, "to expand our lives in faith, connect people deeply, and make a difference through service."

At Westminster, we are a congregation of more than 600 members, which classifies us as an upper-mid-size PC(USA) congregation. We're "big enough" that you can find a wide variety of places to serve God, and we are "relational enough" that you can make deep connections with others, trusting that when life is at its best or at its most difficult, Westminster friends will show up to support you and your loved ones. When a person becomes a member, their household is assigned a "Deacon," a member who has been called to a ministry of "care and compassion." Your Deacon will be a person of support for your family, someone you can call on in a time of need. Deacons may respond directly or may put you in touch with a pastor.

As two "points of pride" in 2023, Westminster is the only certified PC(USA) Earth Care Congregation in our regional body (called a "presbytery"), and we are one of only 15 churches in Lincoln that openly seek to be affirming and welcoming of the LGBTQIA+ community.

Westminster Presbyterian Church - Lincoln, NE

westminsterlincoln.org

office@westminsterlincoln.org

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Membership is a Joy, a Privilege, and a Commitment...

Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church. Such involvement includes:

- proclaiming the good news in word and deed,
- taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation,
- lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support,
- studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life,
- supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents,
- demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church,
- responding to God's activity in the world through service to others,
- living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life,
- working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment, caring for God's creation,
- participating in the governing responsibilities of the church, and
- reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one's membership, and considering ways in which one's participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful."

(Source: PCUSA Book of Order)

How to Join and What to Expect...

In 2023, WPC will offer quarterly opportunities for you to have a casual conversation with members and pastors during the "Connection Time" that takes place after church. In 2023, those dates are March 12, June 11, August 13, and October 22. Simply meet at the long gold table in the Garden Room.

We will also host several New Member Welcome Sundays, with the first on March 26th. Others will follow based on individual availability. On Welcome Sundays, you will be asked to arrive at 9:00am to meet with Session members, and then you will be recognized in worship. Afterward, we'll add you to contact / email lists, connect you with a Deacon, and have a member or staff member reach out based on information you choose to share with us on your Interest and New Member forms.

**For More Information on Membership or Joining, email
office@westminsterlincoln.org, chris@westminsterlincoln.org, or
call the church office at (402) 475-6702.**